

35-CS-130, Coos County, Oregon  
Native American Archaeological Sites of the Oregon Coast

IPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

Historic name \_\_\_\_\_

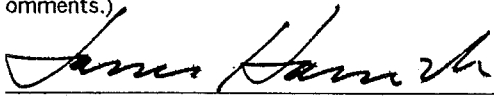
Other names/site number 35-CS-130, The Osprey Site

2. Location

Street & number N/A not for publication   
City or town North Bend vicinity   
State Oregon code OR county Coos code 011 zip code 97143

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

I, the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination \_\_\_ request  
or determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and the  
procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register  
criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally  statewide \_\_\_ locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional  
comments.)



Signature of certifying official /Deputy SHPO

Date January 16, 2001

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_ entered in the National Register  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_ determined eligible for the  
National Register  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the  
National Register

\_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Listed 3/06/01  
NR# 01000131

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

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National Register  
\_\_\_ removed from the National Register  
\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Keeper	Date of Action
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

4. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Native American Archaeological Sites of the Oregon Coast

5. Function or Use

Historic Functions:      Cat: Subsistence                              Sub: Activity area  
Current Functions:      Cat: Recreation and Culture                              Sub: Outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification:	<u>N/A</u>
Materials:	foundation <u>N/A</u>
	roof <u>N/A</u>
	walls <u>N/A</u>
	other <u>N/A</u>

Narrative Description:

The Osprey site, 35-CS-130, is an intertidal fishing structure site in the vicinity of Bandon, Oregon. This area has undergone modification for agricultural development, but in the 19<sup>th</sup> century expansive wetlands north of the river discharged through the site area. Coquille people built numerous weirs here to harvest fish, a staple food source for residents of the area. The Osprey site is the largest known weir site on the Oregon coast, and research at this site has provided a fundamental contribution to the study of archaeological weirs and woven lattice features on the Oregon coast.

Although the significance of the Osprey site and other wood stake weir sites on the banks of the Coquille River was recognized many years ago (Pullen 1985), the site was not recorded until 1994, when a collaborative project to map the site was performed by the University of Oregon and the Coquille Indian Tribe (Tveskov 1994 et al.). During this project, over 3000 wooden weir stakes were mapped at the site, representing some 25 discrete weir features. Many of the structures were initially interpreted as channel edge weirs (Byram 1998:213; Byram and Erlandson 1996), designed to harvest fish moving along the northern edge of the main river channel. However, radiocarbon dating, feature mapping, stratigraphic and paleoecological analysis allowed researchers to see that several of the weirs at the site had been built across the mouths of shallow tidal channels which drained through the site area from the northeast (CIT CRP 1998). In particular, the weir lines in the eastern portion of the site appear to be portions of V shaped structures which were rebuilt across a broad tidal channel many times, leaving several overlapping features.

The Osprey site holds more fragments of archaeological split wood lattice than any other known site on the Oregon coast. Over 15 lattice panels have been examined *in situ*, and six panels, four from a single feature over 3 meters in length, were recovered during a Coquille Tribe/UO Anthropology hydraulic excavation project conducted in 1995 (Byram and Erlandson 1996). Scatters of eroding pieces of lattice warp and weft have also been documented at a dense weir concentration in the western portion of the site. It is possible that some of this lattice is the remains of cylindrical "basket trap" walls, yet the presence of rectangular frame elements on two specimens and the orientation of two other panels along weir lines suggest that the lattice was often used as weir panels or freestanding enclosure walls. Connolly and Byram (1997) have examined the attributes of the Osprey site lattice, finding strong similarities to lattice from four archaeological sites in Yaquina Bay. Small in gauge and warp diameter, it is likely this lattice was used to harvest small fish such as herring, or fishes of various sizes in a generalized fishing strategy. In addition to the lattice, collectors have found

Six radiocarbon dates have been obtained from wooden weir stakes at the Osprey site, with the oldest date from a weir at the western edge of the site, 940 ± 50 RYBP (Beta 74746), calibrated to AD 1090 to 1120. In the eastern portions of the site three weir stakes are dated 790 ± 60 RYBP (Beta 86017), 670 ± 50 RYBP (Beta 72790), and 660 ± 50 RYBP (Beta 72791), representing a range of 1390 to 1260 BP. Two

stakes have been dated from the central portion of the site, east of the Bullards Bridge, dating to  $600 \pm 70$  RYBP (Beta 88466) and  $400 \pm 60$  RYBP (Beta 88465), for a calibrated range from AD 1630 to 1300. A single radiocarbon date has been obtained from a piece of wood in a woven lattice panel, one of the large panels in the excavated Lattice Feature 8, dating to  $180 \pm 50$  RYBP (Beta 111760), or AD 1650 to 1950. Thus, site use appears to have been spread over much of the last millenium, primarily during the Precontact period. However, historic accounts indicate that Osprey site weirs or weirs in nearby tidal channels were used as late as the 1850s (Byram and Erlandson 1996:15), and the single lattice panel radiocarbon date may also represent use of the site during the Postcontact period.

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8. Statement of Significance  
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Applicable National Register Criteria

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance: Archaeology: Prehistoric/Protohistoric  
Ethnic Heritage: Native American

Period of Significance: Late Holocene Precontact and Postcontact periods

Significant Dates: 940 + 50 RYBP (Beta-74746); calibrated range = AD 930 (830) 760  
790 ± 60 RYBP (Beta 86017); calibrated range = AD 1260 (1300) 1345  
670 + 50 RYBP (Beta-72790); calibrated range = AD 670 (650) 560  
660 + 50 RYBP (Beta-72791); calibrated range = AD 660 (650) 560  
600 + 70 RYBP (Beta-88466); calibrated range = AD 1300 (1395) 1415  
400 + 60 RYBP (Beta-88465); calibrated range = AD 1440 (1470) 1630  
180 ± 50 RYBP (Beta 111760), calibrated range = AD 1650 ( ) 1950

Significant Person: N/A

Cultural Affiliation: Miluk, Upper Coquille

Architect/Bullder: N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance: The Osprey site, 35-CS-130, is one of the largest and most complex intertidal fishing structure sites on the Oregon coast. Containing over 3000 weir stakes, most in discrete linear weir features, the site holds enormous potential for research into variation in fishing weir technology during the Late Holocene Precontact and Postcontac periods. The Osprey site also holds more archaeological split wood lattice than any other Northwest Coast weir site. University of Oregon/Coquille Indian Tribe investigations at the Osprey site have already contributed to studies of fishing weir technology and chronology (Byram 1998; Moss and Erlandson 1998), lattice and basketry technology (Connolly and Byram 1997), Coquille Tribal history (Byram and Erlandson 1996), and landscape change in the Coquille estuary (CIT CRP 1998). Along with data from other archaeological sites, research at the Ahnkuti site can help address many questions in Moss and Erlandson's (1996:27-29) Research Topics 1,2,3,4,5 and 6. The site is outstanding among places of cultural significance to members of the Coquille Indian Tribe, many of whom have participated in field work at the site or related lab work. Photographs and materials from the site form the centerpiece to the Coquille Tribe's archaeological "Legacy II" exhibit, currently under development at the Tribal offices in North Bend.

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7. Major Bibliographical References

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Byram, R. Scott  
1998 Fishing Weirs in Oregon Estuaries. In, *Hidden Dimensions: The Cultural Significance of Wetland Archaeology*, edited by Kathryn Bernick, pp. 199-219. University of British Columbia Laboratory of Archaeology Papers No. 1 Vancouver.

Byram, R. Scott and Jon M. Erlandson  
1996 Fishing Technologies at a Coquille River Wet Site: The 1994-95 Osprey Site Archaeological Project. Report on file at the State Museum of Anthropology, University of Oregon.

Coquille Indian Tribe Cultural Resources Program  
1998 *Coquille River Archaeological Mapping Project 1998-99: Interim Report on 1998 Activities*. On file at the offices of the Coquille Indian Tribe, North Bend, Oregon.

Moss, Madonna L., and Jon M. Erlandson  
1996 National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form: Native American Archaeological Sites of the Oregon Coast. Report on file, Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, Salem, Oregon.  
1998 A Comparative Chronology of Northwest Coast Fishing Features. In, *Hidden Dimensions: The Cultural Significance of Wetland Archaeology*, edited by Kathryn Bernick, pp. 180-198. University of British Columbia Laboratory of Archaeology Papers No. 1 Vancouver.

Nelson, A.R., B.F. Atwater, P.T. Bobrowsky, L.A. Bradley, J.J. Clague, G.A. Carver, M.E. Darienzo, W.C. Grant, H.W. Krueger, R. Sparks, T.W. Stafford, and M. Stuiver  
1995 Radiocarbon Evidence for Extensive Plate-Boundary Rupture About 300 Years Ago at the Cascadia Subduction Zone. *Nature*, vol.378:371-374.

Pullen, Reg  
1985 Water-Saturated Sites on the Oregon Coast. *Current Archaeological Happenings in Oregon* 10 (4):12-14.

Tveskov, Mark, Scott Byram, Jon Erlandson, and the Coquille Indian Tribe  
1994 Archaeological Site Record for the Osprey Site, 35-CS-130, Coquille River, Oregon. On file at the State Historic Preservation Office, Salem, Oregon.

Tveskov, Mark A.  
1997 Map of Site in the vicinity of Bullards State Park and 35-CS-1, Coquille River, Oregon. On file at the State Historic Preservation Office, Salem, Oregon.

Previous documentation on file (NPS)  
 preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data  
 State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: University of Oregon, State Museum of Anthropology

0. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 10.5 acres USGS Quadrangle: Bullards, Oregon (1970), 1:24,000 (7.5')

JTM References: Zone Easting Northing Description of Point  
Site center

Verbal Boundary Description: Site 35-CS-130, the Osprey site,

boundary is shared with the 35-CS2/3 site complex, as defined by Tveskov (1997). The southern boundary of the site is a subtidal erosional cutbank which is close to the lower low tide water line along much of the site's length. The interior portion of the site is more difficult to establish, as many of the weir features appear to extend under the mudflats and marsh sediments which rise in elevation moving northward away from the river. There may also be entirely buried weirs in the marsh area north of the site. As most of the visible weirs are within 30 meters of the subtidal channel bank along the south edge, the northern site boundary is drawn at 30 meters from this bank, with an additional 40 meter buffer zone beyond. Thus, the site is a 70 meter wide strip running east-west along the north bank of the Coquille River for 600 meters.

Boundary Justification: The boundaries of the Osprey site are based solely on the extent or projected extent of known archaeological weir features at the site. Further investigation of the marsh sediments north of the site may lead to expansion of the site boundary in this direction if buried weirs are encountered. Permanent constructed features, a tidegate and bridge, provide reference points for demarcation of the east and west ends of the site, and the southern boundary is defined by an erosional subtidal channel bank. Only the northern boundary of the site must be estimated, and due to the size of some of the weirs present a buffer of 40 meters is added to the site's northern boundary, to account for segments of weirs which may extend under the sediments of this part of the site.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Scott Byram and Jon Erlandson  
organization Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon  
date August 17, 1999  
street & number 308 Condon Hall, 1218 University of Oregon telephone (541) 346-5098  
city or town Eugene, OR 97403-1218

Property Owners

Lower Intertidal Portions (below mean low water):

name State of Oregon  
department Division of State Lands  
street/number 775 Summer Street NE telephone (503) 378-3026  
city & state Salem, OR 97310

Upper Intertidal and Supratidal Portions (below mean low water):

name Michael L. Keiser, Bandon Dunes  
street/number Round Lake Drive telephone (541) 347-4380  
city & state Bandon, OR 97411

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Photographs Page 1 35-CS-130, Coos County, Oregon

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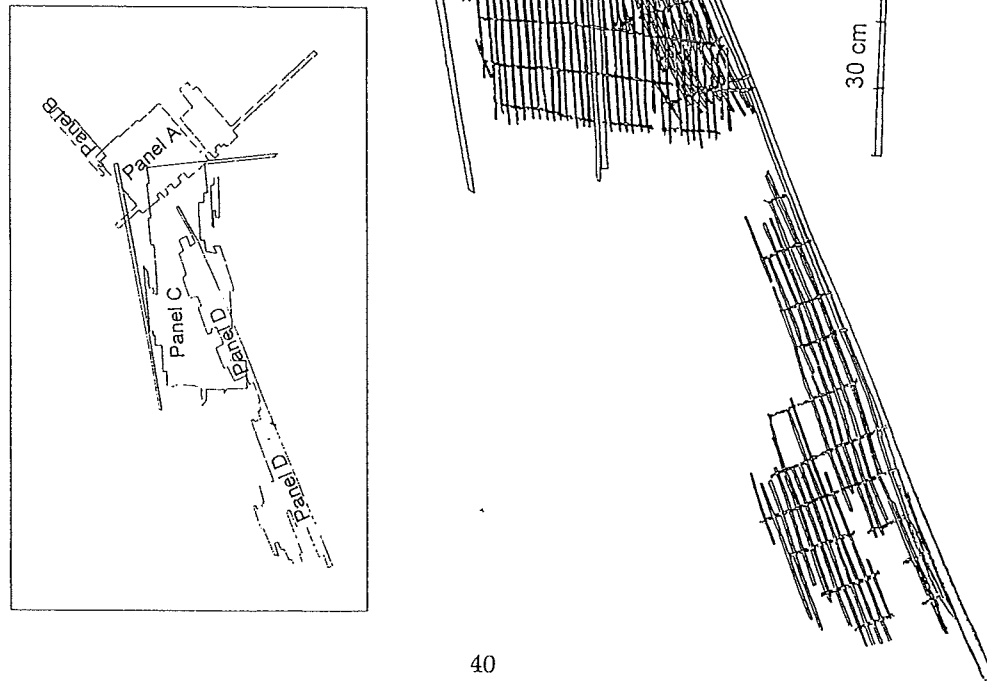
Photograph 1 of 2

3. Photographer: R. S. Byram.
4. Date: August 10, 1994.
5. Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon.
6. Overview of eastern site area, showing linear wood stake weir features exposed on channel bank at low tide; looking east.
7. 35-CS-130: Roll 1, Frame 1.

Photograph 2 of 2

8. Photographer: R. S. Byram.
9. Date: August 16, 1994.
10. Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon.
11. Overview of western site area, with Coquille Indian Tribe members and University of Oregon archaeologists mapping wood stake weir features at low tide; looking west.
12. 35-CS-130: Roll 2, Frame 1.

Figure 19. Plan drawing of Feature B8. Stake 1 (radiocarbon dated to  $790 \pm 50$  RYBP), underlies Panel C and has a weathered top. Stakes 2 and 3 have tops which appear to have been snapped under bending compression (drawing by Byram).



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### 35-CS-130, Native American Archaeological Sites of the Oregon Coast

Plan view of Feature B8, showing orientation of woven latticework panels recovered at the Osprey Site (by R. S. Byram)

From: Byram and Erlandson (1996) *Fishing Technologies at a Coquille River Wet Site: The 1994 Osprey Archaeological Project*. Report  
 Museum of Anthropology, University of Oregon.



**Portions of this file have been redacted to  
meet Oregon State law (ORS 192.501(11)).**

**More information may be available upon request.  
Contact the Oregon State Archaeologist for details.**